6: Anonymous T-5 (1770) 1908
OY2 Easter Islanders OY2

It appears as if among themselves their goods are held in common, and I believe they conceal as much as they can get possession of below the ground, for we never saw afterwards any of the things we gave them. We treated them with every consideration, and gave them whatever they asked for. Many of them pronounce with clearness *Ave Maria: Viva Carlos Tercero, Rey de España.* The men are generally of large stature, very many exceeding 8½ spans [*palmos*] of Castile[1] [in height]; most of them attain 8 spans, and there were two whom out of curiosity we measured, one of 9 spans and 2 inches[2], and the other 9 and 3½ inches[3], all their limbs being of proportionate dimensions. The quality and *timbre* of their voice is adapted to pronounce any language with facility; theirs being very similar to Arabic; although for harshness and resonance it is on a par with that of the Lazarones of Naples.

We never saw their bravery put to the test, but I suspect they are faint-hearted; they possess no arms, and although in some we observed sundry wounds on the body, which we thought to have been inflicted by cutting instruments of iron or steel, we found that they proceeded from stones, which are their only [weapons of] defence and offence, and as most of these are sharp edged[4] they produce the injury referred to.

I made a bow and arrow, duly strung, by way of experiment, and on handing it to one of those with the scars he instantly stuck it on his head as an ornament, and then hung it round his neck with much joy, being totally ignorant of its use and effect.

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[1] The Castilian *palmo* or span is equal to 8½ inches. 8½ *palmos* therefore express 6 feet, less an inch.

[2] 6 ft. 5 ins.

[3] 6 ft. 6½ ins.

[4] Obsidian.